

Application No. 10/049,803
Amendment Dated July 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated June 30, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 63, 65-67, 69-75, 133-136, 138-140, 158, 165, 173-174, 178 and 180 are pending.

Claims 63, 65-67, 69-75 and 158 are allowed.

Claims 133-136, 138-140, 165, 173-174, 178 and 180 stand rejected.

Claims 133-136, 138-140, 165, 173-174, 178 are hereby cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 63, 65-67, 69-75 and 158 are hereby submitted for reconsideration.

No new matter has been added.

In paragraph 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner has allowed claims 63, 65-67, 69-75 and 158. However, claim 178 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daudelin (U.S. Patent No. 4,959,855) in view of Stern et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,731,927); claims 133-138 and 165 are rejected as unpatentable over Daudelin in view of Fukuzawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,877); claims 139 and 140 are rejected as unpatentable over Daudelin and Fukuzawa, further in view of Cirelli (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,754); and claims 173 and 180 are rejected as unpatentable over Daudelin in view of Cirelli.

Although Applicants disagree with the Examiner's remarks concerning the

Application No. 10/049,803
Amendment Dated July 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated June 30, 2005

rejections of claims 133-136, 138-140, 165, 173-174, 178 and 180, in order to expedite the prosecution of this patent, these claims have been cancelled and will be pursued further in a timely filed continuation application. The remaining claims 63, 65-67, 69-75 and 158 are all allowed by the Examiner.

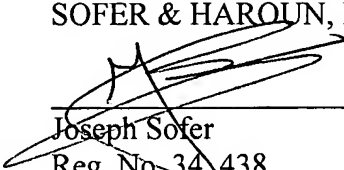
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are currently in condition for allowance, the earliest possible notice of which is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner feels that an additional telephone interview would advance the prosecution of this application he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted

SOFER & HAROUN, LLP

Dated: 7/13/05

By:



Joseph Sofer
Reg. No. 34,438
317 Madison Avenue
Suite 910
New York, New York 10017
(212)697-2800